



U.S. Department of Justice

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MEDIA RELEASE
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OPERATION STREETSWEEPER

MANCHESTER WOMAN SENTENCED ON DRUG CHARGE

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, New Hampshire Attorney General Kelly Ayotte and John Jaskolka, Chief of the Manchester Police Department announced today that Kimberly Baez, 34, of Manchester, was sentenced by the U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire to 80 months incarceration after pleading guilty earlier this year to one count of distribution of crack cocaine. Baez was also sentenced to three years of supervised release which begins after she is released from prison. During the term of supervised release, Baez's behavior will be monitored by the United States Probation Office.

Baez's arrest and prosecution were part of the United States Attorney's Office Operation Streetsweeper. Under the Streetsweeper program, Manchester Police Department, the New Hampshire Attorney General's Drug Task Force, and the United States Attorney's Office work together to combat street level drug crime in the state's largest city. Denying drug dealers a foothold in the neighborhoods of Manchester is an ongoing and continual effort warranting federal prosecutorial attention. The federal penalties for crack cocaine are significantly more severe than state penalties.

U.S. Attorney Tom Colantuono stated, "The prosecution of this case and others like it represents the continuing efforts of local and state law enforcement, working jointly with the United States Attorney's Office, to eradicate crack cocaine from the streets of New Hampshire."

The prosecution of this case resulted from the collaborative efforts of the New Hampshire Attorney General's Drug Task Force and the Manchester Police Department. This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Helen White Fitzgibbon.